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Homeless Students Data

2013–14

Authorizing legislation:

[RCW 28A.300.540](http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.300.540) (<http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.300.540>)

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Executive Summary

Currently, there are more than 1.2 million homeless youth enrolled in schools across the nation. Children experiencing homelessness are more likely to suffer academically and are more likely to drop out of school when compared to their housed peers. In Washington, the number of homeless youth has increased every year since the 2001 reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Act, which requires all school districts to report annually the number of homeless students enrolled in schools.

In addition to the McKinney-Vento Act requirements, the Washington State Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 6074 during the 2014 legislative session. This bill aims to improve educational outcomes for homeless youth by bolstering homeless student identification and establishing further data reporting requirements to identify additional supports necessary for these children.

For more information related to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the education of homeless youth, please visit the OSPI Homeless Children and Youth website at www.k12.wa.us, the National Center for Homeless Education website at www.serve.org/nche, or the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth website at www.naehcy.org.

Table 1: Change in the Number of Homeless Students

School Year	Number of Homeless Students
2008-09	20,780
2009-10	21,826
2010-11	26,049
2011-12	27,390
2012-13	30,609
2013-14	32,494

The number of homeless students represented in this table has increased over the years. In part, this increase may be accounted for by better data quality in the collection of data for homeless students.

Introduction

Legislation

The 2014 Washington State Legislature passed legislation (SSB 6074; [RCW 28A.300.540](#)) that requires OSPI to report homeless students data to the Legislature every other year starting January 10, 2015. This report provides a more in-depth analysis of homeless student data than is currently required by the U.S. Department of Education under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. The statewide assessment data to be reported by OSPI must include performance outcomes disaggregated by at least the following subgroups of students: White, Black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian Native, low income, transitional bilingual, migrant, special education, and gender. Additional information regarding student participation in a variety of supportive educational programs will also be included in the report to the Legislature.

Homeless Enrollment

During the 2013–14 school year, 32,494 students were identified as homeless, which amounted to 3.1 percent of students statewide. Please visit <http://www.k12.wa.us/HomelessEd> for additional information.

Table 2: 2013-14 Homeless Student Enrollment by Subgroup

Student Subgroup	#of Homeless Students	Total Student Population	% of Homeless Students
All Students	32,494	^A 1,056,809	3.1
Male	^B 16,392	^C 544,722	^D 3.0
Female	16,102	511,987	3.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,248	16,437	7.6
Asian	549	75,732	0.7
Black/African American	3,663	47,965	7.6
Hispanic/Latino	9,190	222,619	4.1
White	14,180	612,316	2.3
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	675	10,152	6.6
2 or more	2,980	71,427	4.2
Special Education	6,685	139,601	4.8
Limited English	3,857	102,339	3.8
Low Income	30,719	484,363	6.3
LAP	4,980	126,627	3.9
Migrant	1,374	20,295	6.8
504 Plan	599	25,591	2.3
Highly Capable	177	35,905	0.5
Running Start	197	20,200	1.0

A. October 2013 student enrollment count.

B. Read as “16,392 male students are homeless.”

C. Read as “There are 544,722 male students in the state.”

D. Read as “3.0% of male students are homeless.”

Table 3: 2013-14 Homeless Student Enrollment by Grade Level

Grade Level	Homeless		State Enrollment	% of State Enrollment
	Enrollment	% of Homeless		
Pre K	^A 732	^B 2.3	^C 12,445	^{D E} 5.9
Full Day K	1,949	6.0	48,517	4.0
Half Day K	871	2.7	33,013	2.6
1st	2,895	8.9	83,345	3.5
2nd	2,585	8.0	80,436	3.2
3rd	2,601	8.0	79,228	3.3
4th	2,337	7.2	78,929	3.0
5th	2,235	6.9	78,534	2.8
6th	2,135	6.6	77,672	2.7
7th	2,058	6.3	79,452	2.6
8th	2,157	6.6	79,984	2.7
9th	2,207	6.8	83,313	2.6
10th	2,111	6.5	81,442	2.6
11th	2,259	7.0	79,771	2.8
12th	3,362	10.3	84,217	4.0
Total	32,494	100.0	^F 1,047,853	3.1

A. Read as "There are 732 homeless preschoolers."

B. Read as "2.3% of all homeless students are in preschool."

C. Read as "There are 12,445 preschoolers in the state of Washington."

D. Read as "5.9% of all preschoolers are homeless."

F. Preschool count only includes students receiving special education services.

E. October 2013 student enrollment count.

Table 4: Percent of Homeless Students that Met Standard in Reading by Subgroup during the 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	10th
Statewide	72.0	70.0	72.4	72.7	67.7	71.6	82.9
Homeless (All)	52.2	49.6	51.6	52.5	44.2	48.9	57.9
Males	46.9	42.0	48.3	43.2	36.4	41.2	42.3
Females	57.3	57.6	54.8	61.6	51.7	56.6	61.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	33.3	48.7	43.6	41.7	27.7	30.2	42.3
Asian	51.7	54.5	44.0	59.1	70.0	54.2	64.3
Black/African American	44.4	39.0	46.1	46.4	28.5	44.4	51.1
Hispanic/Latino	47.5	42.1	44.1	49.7	36.9	43.2	54.5
White	61.2	56.6	60.4	56.6	55.9	52.9	64.6
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	58.8	42.9	37.5	44.0	36.1	37.5	37.1
2 or more	46.8	60.4	55.2	58.0	47.4	66.7	56.7
Special Education	24.3	28.2	27.4	20.3	19.3	26.7	32.5
Limited English	35.1	26.1	13.8	17.4	11.4	15.9	22.3
Migrant	37.5	45.5	30.0	38.0	31.9	39.1	39.2
Low Income	51.9	49.3	51.7	52.4	44.1	49.0	58.8

Table 5: Percent of Homeless Students that Met Standard in Math by Subgroup during the 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Statewide	63.0	60.8	63.5	63.6	57.8	55.9
Homeless (All)	38.8	35.1	40.8	38.7	30.9	28.0
Males	42.5	36.3	38.1	38.6	26.5	28.4
Females	35.2	33.7	43.4	38.9	35.1	27.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	23.3	25.6	41.0	19.6	19.1	11.4
Asian	48.3	47.1	50.0	63.6	50.0	54.2
Black/African American	34.3	23.9	30.3	30.5	18.4	23.8
Hispanic/Latino	35.2	32.5	37.9	36.0	27.5	23.4
White	43.8	42.2	47.1	42.8	38.0	31.0
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	31.4	17.1	25.0	52.0	22.2	29.2
2 or more	41.5	33.3	41.0	43.6	36.2	36.6
Special Education	21.1	16.9	16.6	12.0	7.5	8.1
Limited English	25.9	23.6	24.7	18.2	13.7	14.0
Migrant	33.9	42.9	35.9	30.0	26.1	28.3
Low Income	38.9	34.9	40.7	38.7	30.7	28.1

Table 6: Percent of Homeless Students that Met Standard in Writing by Subgroup during the 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	4 th	7 th	10 th
Statewide	62.1	71.1	85.6
Homeless (All)	41.7	49.6	64.7
Males	31.7	37.8	56.7
Females	52.0	60.7	72.4
American Indian/Alaska Native	42.1	34.8	63.5
Asian	63.6	84.2	80.5
Black/African American	36.9	42.1	61.4
Hispanic/Latino	40.9	44.8	62.3
White	41.8	55.1	68.6
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	37.1	58.8	59.4
2 or more	46.0	50.0	57.4
Special Education	18.3	20.9	41.1
Limited English	30.5	22.5	49.2
Migrant	53.5	41.3	47.9
Low Income	41.7	49.3	66.3

Table 7: Percent of Homeless Students that Met Standard in Science by Subgroup during the 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	5 th	8 th
Statewide	66.8	67.2
Homeless (All)	45.1	39.6
Males	43.8	41.9
Females	46.4	37.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	27.6	24.4
Asian	44.7	40.6
Black/African American	34.0	27.9
Hispanic/Latino	35.4	29.5
White	57.0	49.9
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	25.5	34.2
2 or more	47.1	46.8
Special Education	27.3	21.4
Limited English	15.3	6.1
Migrant	16.7	26.4
Low Income	45.1	40.2

Table 8: Homeless Students Meeting Standard in End of Course Exams by Subgroup during the 2013-14 School Year

All Grade Levels	EOC Math Year 1		EOC Math Year 2		EOC Biology	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Meeting Standard	823	31.9	228	29.9	920	41.4
Level 4	179	6.9	72	9.4	181	8.1
Level 3	615	23.9	155	20.3	678	30.5
Basic	29	1.1	1	0.1	61	2.7
Not Meeting Standard	1,754	68.1	534	70.0	1,301	58.6
Level 2	138	5.4	136	17.8	348	15.7
Level 1	977	37.9	296	38.8	357	16.1
No Score*	639	24.8	102	13.3	596	26.8
Total	2,577	100.0	762	100.0	2,221	100.0

*Other (No Score) includes no booklet, enrolled but not tested, incomplete, insufficient, invalidated and tested out of grade level.

Table 9: Percent of Homeless Students Meeting Standard*in End of Course Exams by Subgroup during 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	EOC Math Year 1	EOC Math Year 2	EOC Biology
Statewide	79.5	79.2	77.7
Homeless (All)	51.4	32.0	43.7
Males	49.2	35.1	43.1
Females	53.7	29.5	44.4
American Indian/Alaska Native	31.4	15.0	30.9
Asian	65.9	60.0	48.5
Black/African American	49.1	22.6	31.9
Hispanic/Latino	41.9	27.4	39.4
White	59.1	41.2	52.8
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	44.8	20.0	35.3
2 or more	51.5	31.0	39.0
Special Education	17.9	16.7	29.3
Limited English	32.2	28.9	19.5
Migrant	36.2	26.7	36.4
Low Income	51.6	31.5	44.3

*Met Standard including PP includes all students that met the standard during this test administration and also includes students who have met the standard for this test during a previous test administration.

Table 10: Homeless Student Performance on the Washington English Language Proficiency Assessment during the 2013-14

Student Subgroup	% Level 4 (Transitional)	% Level 3 (Advanced)	% Level 2 (Intermediate)	% Level 1 (Beginning)
Statewide	12.2	53.9	28.7	3.8
Homeless (All)	8.5	48.7	34.5	6.1
Males	8.3	51.1	31.5	6.4
Females	10.6	53.7	30.3	3.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	6.6	48.3	34.4	6.0
Asian	13.9	54.8	26.5	4.8
Black/African American	12.4	47.5	32.1	6.0
Hispanic/Latino	7.7	49.1	34.8	6.2
White	16.1	39.9	38.5	4.9
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	5.0	46.5	39.5	6.0
2 or more	8.5	54.9	31.0	4.2
Special Education	2.6	38.0	47.9	7.7
Limited English	8.7	49.3	34.2	5.8
Migrant	12.2	48.0	28.6	10.2
Low Income	8.4	49.1	34.4	6.1

Table 11: Homeless Students Graduation Rates, 4-Year Adjusted Cohort, Class of 2014

Student Subgroup	Adjusted 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	Cohort Dropout Rate	Continuing Rate
Statewide	77.2	12.3	10.4
Homeless (All)	46.1	31.5	22.5
Males	40.4	35.5	24.1
Females	51.1	27.9	21.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	30.8	38.5	30.8
Asian	55.3	28.9	15.8
Black/African American	44.5	29.2	26.3
Hispanic/Latino	42.8	31.2	26.1
White	48.3	31.9	19.8
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	54.2	18.8	27.1
2 or more	45.2	32.2	22.6
Special Education	34.1	37.0	29.0
Limited English	36.4	31.8	31.8
Migrant	43.3	31.3	25.4
Low Income	46.0	31.3	22.7

Table 12: Homeless Students Graduation Rates, 5-Year Adjusted Cohort, Class of 2013

Student Subgroup	Adjusted 5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	Cohort Dropout Rate	Continuing Rate
Statewide	79.9	16.2	3.9
Homeless (All)	51.9	39.0	10.2
Males	46.3	43.1	10.6
Females	56.7	35.4	7.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	36.3	53.5	10.2
Asian	65.2	26.8	8.0
Black/African American	49.3	36.9	13.8
Hispanic/Latino	48.3	42.3	9.3
White	53.6	37.9	8.5
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	59.3	33.9	6.8
2 or more	55.1	36.9	8.0
Special Education	43.6	41.1	15.3
Limited English	46.7	43.5	9.8
Migrant	53.0	42.0	4.9
Low Income	52.0	38.8	9.2

Table 13: Homeless Absenteeism and Truancy by Grade Level during 2013-14 School Year

Grade Level	^A Chronic	^B Truancy
Full Day K	32.0	11.1
Half Day K	29.1	8.4
1st	28.1	9.5
2nd	25.1	8.3
3rd	25.3	8.1
4th	23.2	8.2
5th	24.5	8.5
6th	30.5	11.6
7th	36.9	13.9
8th	40.3	19.1
9th	45.6	33.3
10th	44.8	33.9
11th	46.1	37.2
12th	44.1	37.9
Total	34.2	18.6

- A. Students with 18 or more full day absences (excused or unexcused).
- B. Students with either five or more full day unexcused absences in any continuous 30-calendar-day period or students who have 10 or more full day unexcused absences in the 2013-14 school year. Truancy rates are based on reported absences, not if a truancy petition was filed.
- C. 12.7% of preschoolers were chronically absent.
- D. 7.6% of preschoolers had absences that could be considered truant.

Table 14: Homeless Absenteeism and Truancy by Subgroup during 2013-14 School Year

Student Subgroup	^A Chronic	^B Truancy
Statewide	11.1	4.1
Homeless (All)	34.2	18.6
Males	33.9	18.7
Females	34.5	18.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	42.3	29.2
Asian	23.4	13.6
Black/African American	34.8	18.8
Hispanic/Latino	31.1	16.9
White	35.2	18.5
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	34.1	19.7
2 or more	37.4	20.5
Special Education	40.7	21.1
Limited English	21.9	10.3
Migrant	19.2	11.1
Low Income	34.7	18.8

- A. Students with 18 or more full day absences (excused or unexcused).
- B. Students with either five or more full day unexcused absences in any continuous 30-calendar-day period or students who have 10 or more full day unexcused absences in the 2013-14 school year. Truancy rates are based on reported absences, not if a truancy petition was filed.

Table 15: 2013-14 Homeless Suspensions and Expulsions by Subgroup

Student Subgroup	# of Students that were Suspended or Expelled	% of Homeless that were Suspended or Expelled
Statewide	42,699	4.0
Homeless (All)	2,599	8.3
Males	1,781	11.3
Females	818	5.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	135	11.2
Asian	18	3.3
Black/African American	461	13.0
Hispanic/Latino	568	6.4
White	1,093	8.0
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	40	6.1
2 or more	289	10.0
Special Education	883	13.6
Limited English	193	4.7
Migrant	83	5.1
Low Income	2,539	8.6

Conclusion and Next Steps

Washington state school districts are identifying and serving increasing numbers of homeless students every year, and the numbers continue to rise. Between the 2008-09 school year and 2013-14 school year, Washington state experienced a 56% increase in the number of enrolled homeless students reported by school districts. In many cases, school is the only stable or safe place for children and youth who are experiencing the instability of disrupted housing and high mobility.

Knowing that homelessness impacts both the academic and the social-emotional well-being of students, it is critical for school districts to have the resources and supports necessary to ensure that all vulnerable children and youth, particularly those experiencing homelessness, are identified, served and supported.

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